



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Walker, et al.

Serial No.: 09/668,831

Filed: September 22, 2000

For: CORDLESS SURGICAL
HANDPIECE WITH DISPOSABLE
BATTERY AND METHOD

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Attorney Docket No.: 31849.24

Customer No.: 27683

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Davis, Daniel J.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

BOX AF
Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Examiner:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 6, 2003, please consider the following remarks:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) A surgical instrument comprising:
 - (a) a handpiece having a tool supporting end, and a battery receiving end;
 - (b) a sterile package comprising a single use, disposable battery pack having an attachment end;
 - (c) one of the battery receiving end and attachment end having an alignment post with a plurality of electrical contacts arranged concentric thereto, and the other thereof having a central opening defining a longitudinal axis with a set of electrical contact elements concentric to that axis; and
 - (d) wherein the two sets of contacts are adapted to become lockingly and conductively interengaged upon engagement of the alignment post with the central opening and in response to rotation of the battery pack relative to the handpiece.

4. (Amended) A surgical instrument comprising: